



# FEMA

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh) and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

## FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

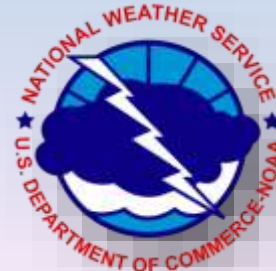
Tuesday, March 27, 2018  
Issued: 0800 CT

***Day 1 Weather Threats: Elevated/Critical Fire Weather Conditions across SE NM, far SW TX & the Davis Mountains & Guadalupe Mountains.***

***Day 1 Weather Threats: A Slight Risk area for severe storms from S Central TX, to across NE TX, SE OK, SW AR and NW LA. There is also a Slight to Moderate Risk for Excessive Rainfall from central TX to across E OK, NW LA and AR.***

***Moderate flooding continues on the Ouachita River and the MS Rivers.***

National Weather Service  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX



Prepared by: Felecia Bowser  
817-978-1100 x 147

# Key Points



## Today

- Elevated/Critical Fire Weather conditions across SE NM, far SW TX & the Davis Mountains & Guadalupe Mountains.
- Slight Risk of Severe thunderstorms across from S central TX, to across NE TX, SE OK, SW AR and NW LA– hail, damaging winds and isolated tornadoes are the main threats.
- Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible across central TX to across E OK, NW LA and AR as an area of slight to moderate risk of Excessive Rain covers these areas.
- Snowfall of 1-4 inches with localized higher amounts up to 8 inches will be possible across the northern mountainous regions of NM – Winter Weather Advisory is in effect.

## Wednesday through Thursday

- The Slight Risk area of severe thunderstorms will sag southward WEDNESDAY, encompassing SE TX from along and S of a Laredo to a Lufkin line and extending northeast into LA and SE AR – hail and damaging winds will be the main threats.
- A Slight Risk of severe thunderstorms will be noted across SE LA on THURSDAY– hail and damaging winds will be the main threats.
- Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible across E/SE TX, S AR, and central to N LA as an area of slight to moderate risk of Excessive Rain covers these areas.
- Elevated Fire Weather conditions may occur across the Davis and Guadalupe Mountains on WEDNESDAY.

## Friday through Sunday

- No Significant Weather Impacts are expected.

## River Flood Status

- The Atchafalaya River continues a flat crest at Morgan City, LA and remains in moderate flood stage.
- Due to the operation of the Bonnet Carre spillway, the gauge at Reserve, LA will continue to show minor flooding levels until the spillway is closed. This location should start to recede in the next week.
- This current round of heavy rain later this week in the Mississippi, Tennessee, & Ohio Valleys will mean that additional rises can be expected on portions of the Lower Ohio and middle Mississippi Rivers in the coming days and elevated water levels will remain on the Lower Mississippi River through April.

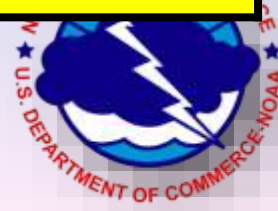
# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 27, 2018 - Mar 31, 2018

DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Strong/Severe Storms	S Cntrl/NE TX into SE OK/SW AR/NW LA	SE TX/LA/SE AR	SE LA		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	Cntrl TXE OK/NW LA/AR	E/SE TX/S AR/Cntrl to N LA	Far E LA		
Fire Weather	SE NM/far SW TX Davis & Guadalupe Mtns.	Davis and Guadalupe Mtns.			
Winter	1-4 inches across N Mountains of NM				
River Flooding	Heavy rain in AR/LA will keep the Mississippi River at or above flood into April.				
	Isolated flooding of creeks and streams.				

	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years

*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

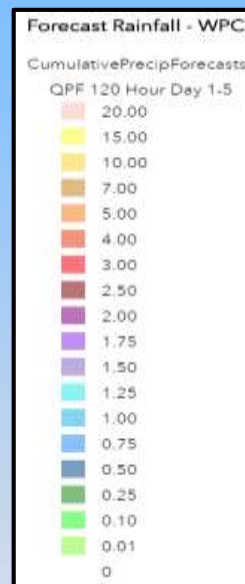
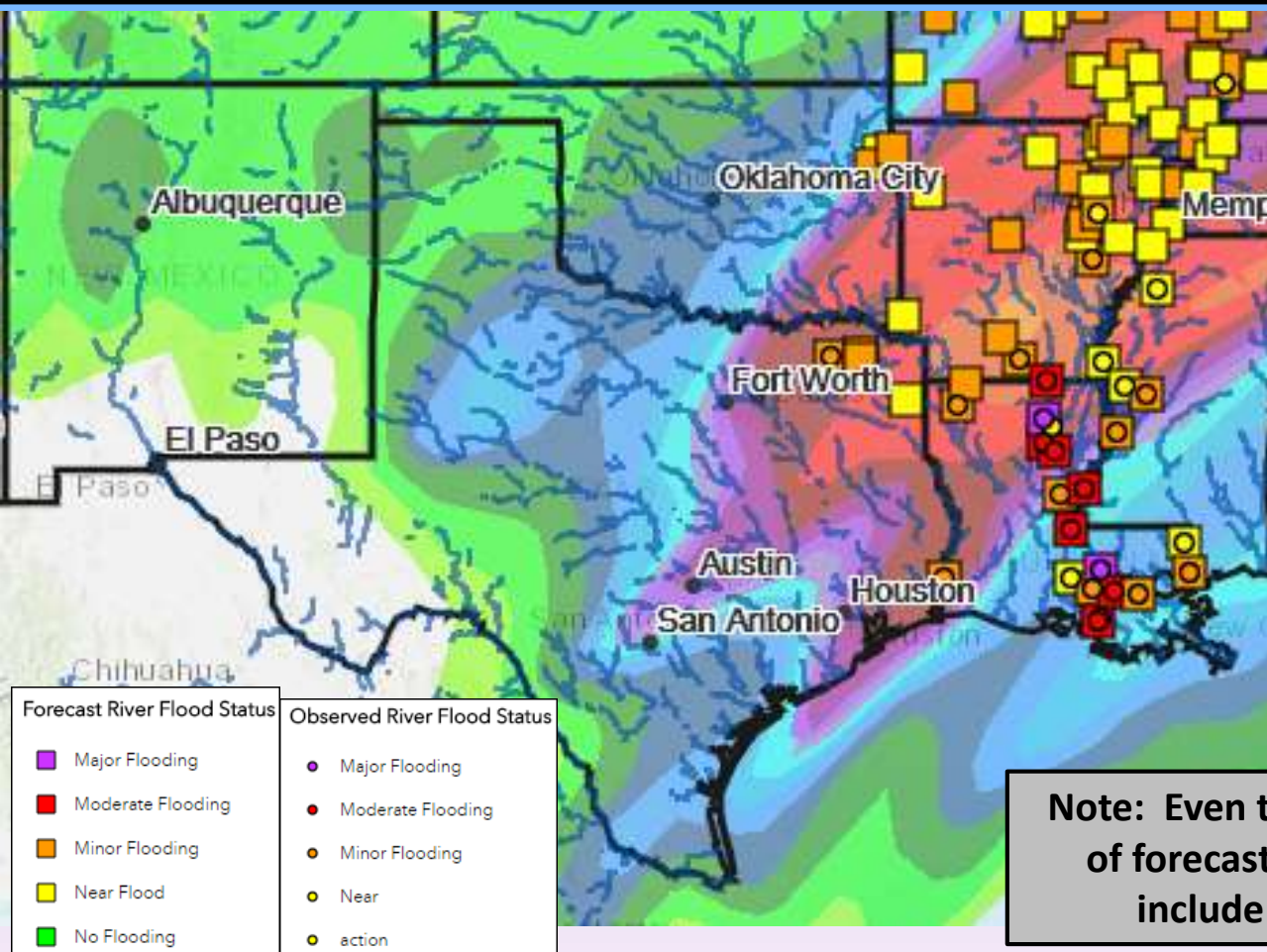


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

**Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita and Mississippi Rivers in LA:**

- **The Atchafalaya River remains in moderate flood stage at Morgan City, LA.**
- **Due to the operations of the Bonnet Carre spillway the stage at Reserve, LA will continue to fluctuate around minor flood stage until the spillways is closed.**

**Minor flooding continues in northeast TX, LA, and AR.**



**Note: Even though this image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1 – 2 days worth of rainfall.**

See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding





# Mississippi River Flood Watch

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Crests and LMRFC forecasts produced morning of March 23, 2018

f NWSLMRFC

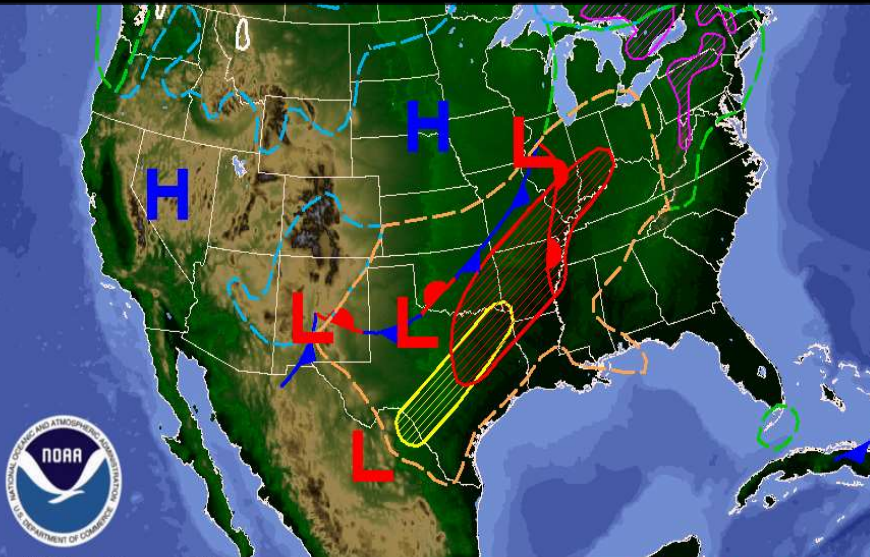
@NWSLMRFC



Forecast Based on Bonnet Carré Operation



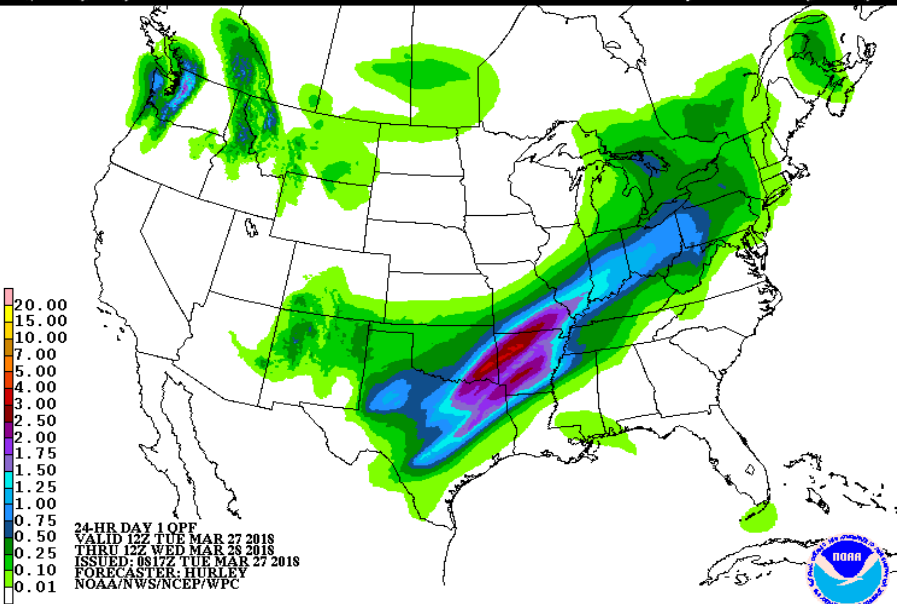
# Today's Weather



**Day 1 National Forecast Chart**

Valid Tue, Mar 27, 2018, issued 4:47 AM EDT  
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
 Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
 Rain and T'Storms  
 Rain and Snow  
 Snow  
 Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24 HR DAY 1 OPI  
 VALID 12Z TUE MAR 27 2018  
 THRU 12Z WED MAR 28 2018  
 ISSUED: 0617Z TUE MAR 27 2018  
 FORECASTER: HURLEY  
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

**Elevated/Critical Fire Weather conditions across the SE NM, far SW TX, Davis and Guadalupe Mountains.**

**Slight Risk Area for Severe Storms across S central TX to across NE TX, SE OK, SW AR and NW LA. There is a**

**Slight to Moderate Risk for Excessive Rainfall across central TX, E OK, AR and NW LA. Hail, damaging winds and isolated tornadoes are the main threats.**

**Moderate flooding continues on the Ouachita River and the MS Rivers.**

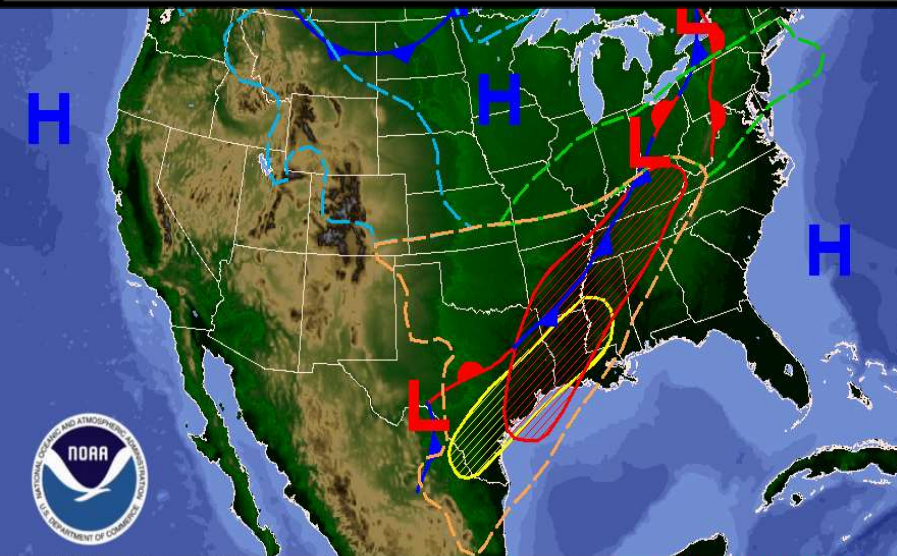
Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

## Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 26 2018 11:53 PM CDT  
 Valid until: Mar 28 2018 6:00 AM CDT



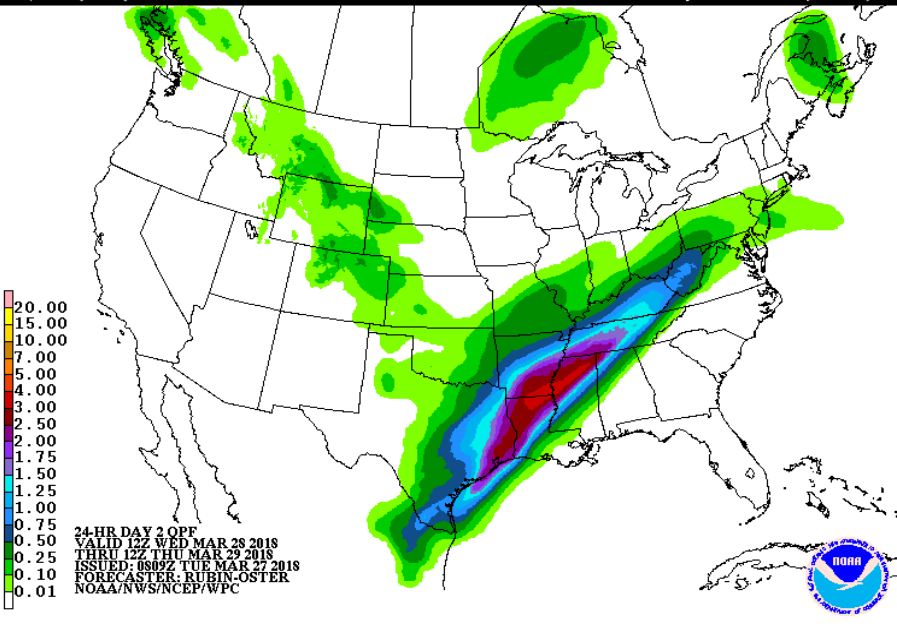
# Tomorrow's Weather



## Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Mar 28, 2018, issued 4:56 AM EDT Tue, Mar 27, 2018  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

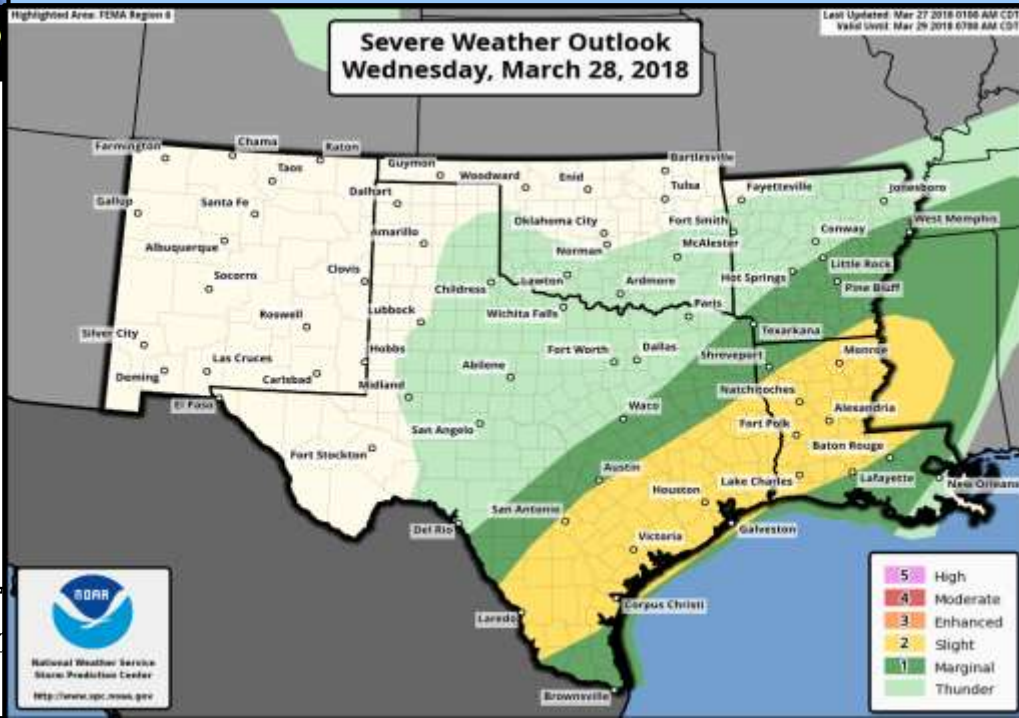


**Slight risk area for severe thunderstorms from SE TX into LA and SE AR. Hail and damaging winds are the main threats.**

**Elevated/Critical Fire Weather conditions across the Davis and Guadalupe Mountains.**

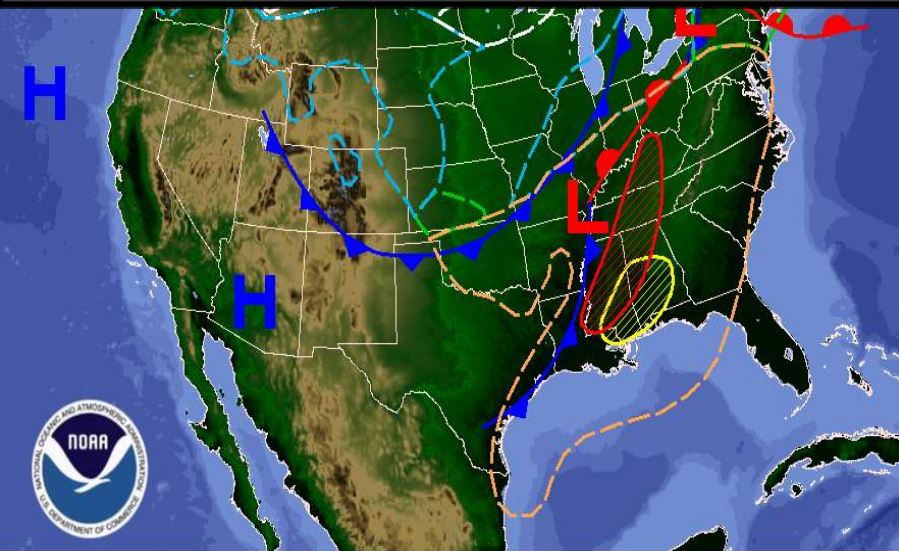
**Heavy Rain/Flash Flooding in E/SE TX, S AR and central to N LA.**

**Moderate flooding continues on the Ouachita River and the MS River.**





# Thursday's Weather



**Slight Risk of severe thunderstorms possible across southeast LA.**

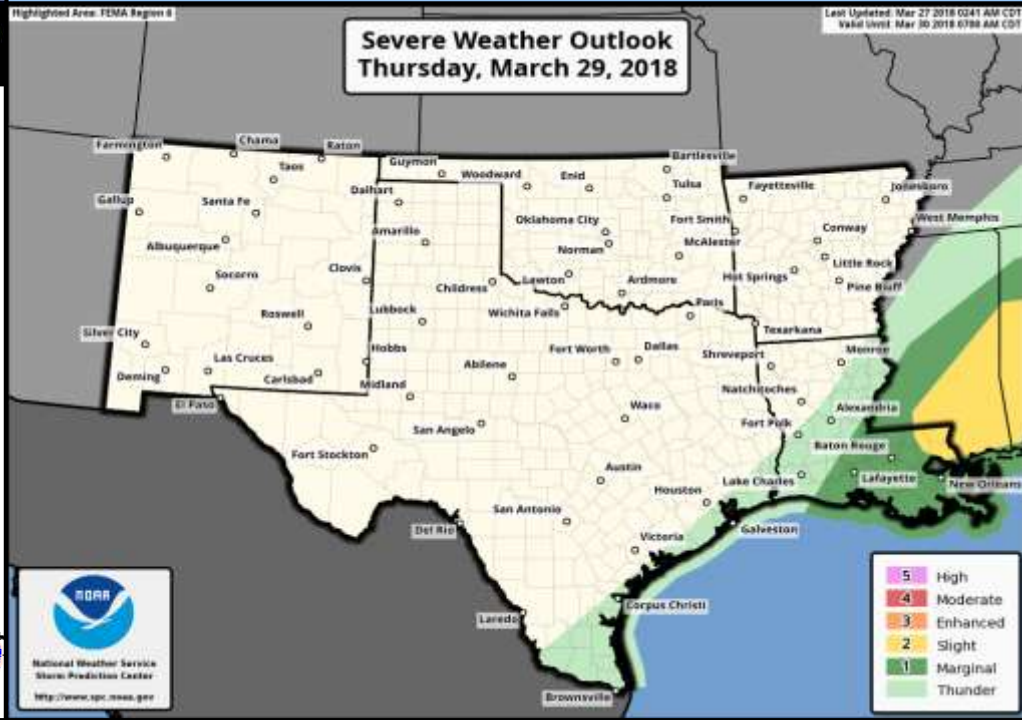
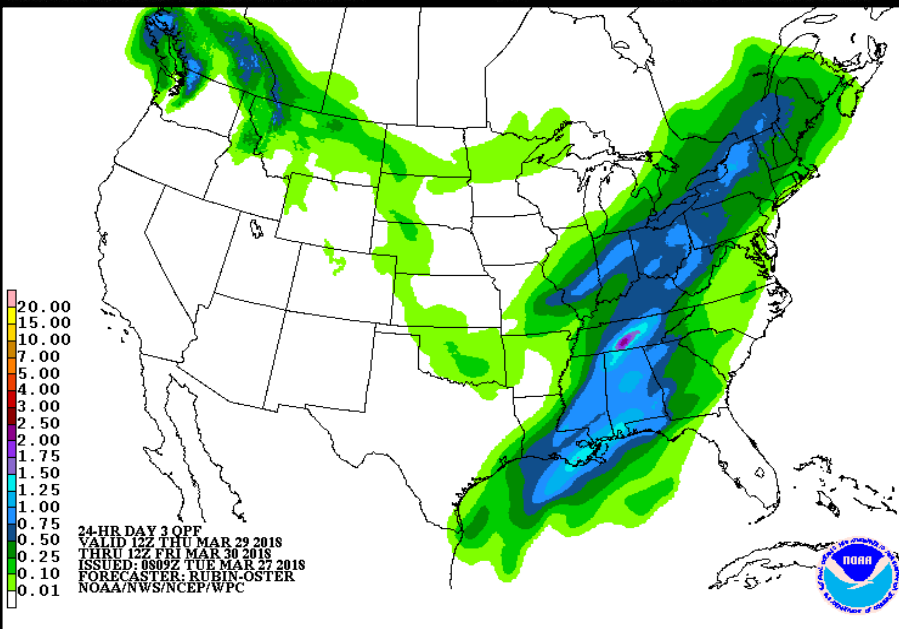
**Lingering moderate to heavy Rain/Flash Flooding in Southeast LA**

**Moderate flooding continues on the Ouachita River and the MS River.**

## Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Mar 29, 2018, issued 4:58 AM EDT Tue, Mar 27, 2018  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



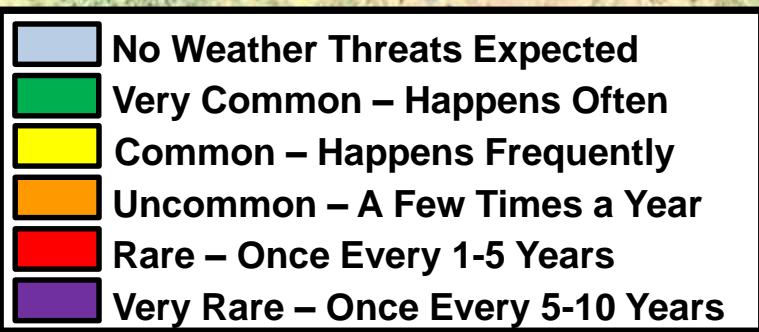


# Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

## *Friday-Saturday*



**No Significant Weather  
is expected.**



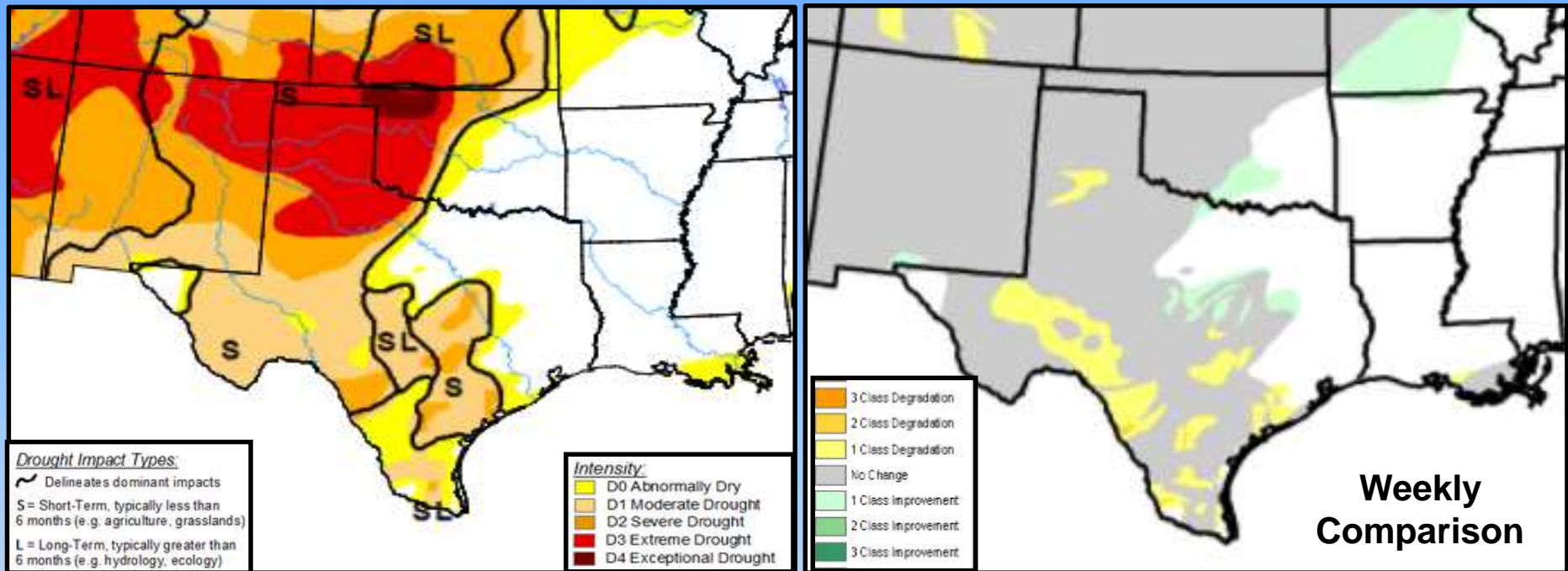
**\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.**





# Drought Monitor Released March 22, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 20, 2018



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	25.31%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.93%	34.93%	1.21%	3.17%
Texas	15.08%	14.19%	0.25%	0.00%
New Mexico	25.60%	25.50%	0.00%	0.00%

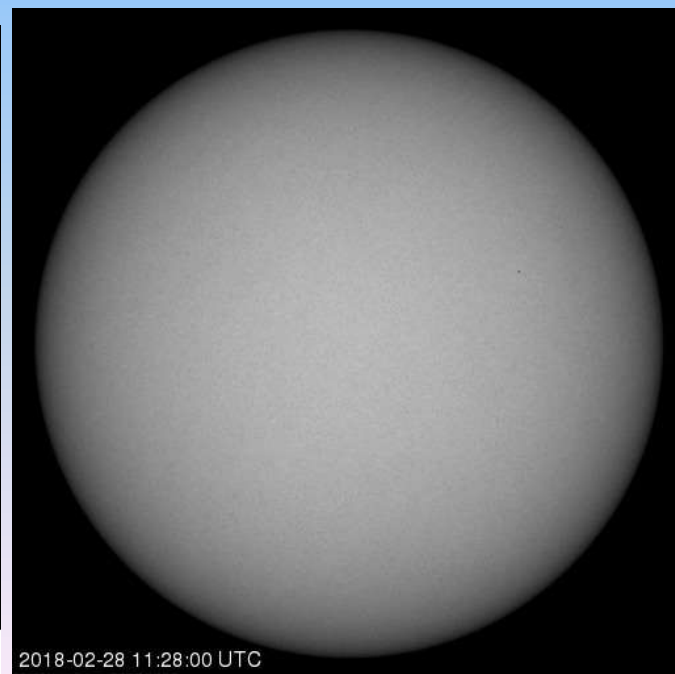
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



2018-02-28 11:28:00 UTC

Normal X-ray Background  
Product Valid At : 2018-03-27 10:08 UTC

Normal Proton Background  
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA



Information provided by:



**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747 **\*New Direct Number**  
E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)  
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

**facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

**twitter**

@NWS\_Southern\_US [https://twitter.com/NWS\\_Southern\\_US](https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US)

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>